

CLAIM AMENDMENTS – LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. – 10. (Canceled)
11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for reducing noise transmission from a vibrating surface, said apparatus comprised of: an array of squeeze film dampers coupled to the vibrating surface, each of said squeeze film dampers being comprised of: a substantially rigid planar base, a substantially planar, flexible cover supported above the substantially rigid planar base structure by a support structure such that the substantially planar rigid base, the support structure and the cover enclose a volume, and further comprising a rigid cover over said array of squeeze film dampers. ~~and the gap between the substantially rigid planar base and the substantially planar flexible cover is less than 1×10^{-4} meters.~~
12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 11 ~~further comprising~~ wherein the rigid cover is a rigid foam cover over said array of squeeze film dampers.
13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein said volume is filled with gas.
14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein said substantially rigid planar base is substantially round.
15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein said substantially rigid planar base is substantially rectangular.
16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein said support structure is comprised of a plurality of separate support structures placed about the perimeter of said substantially rigid planar base.

17. (Currently Amended) A method reducing sound transmission from a vibrating surface, said ~~apparatus method comprising~~ ~~comprised of~~: applying an array of squeeze film dampers to the vibrating surface, each of said squeeze film dampers being comprised of: a substantially rigid planar base, a substantially planar, flexible cover supported above the substantially rigid planar base structure by a support structure such that the substantially planar rigid base, the support structure and the cover enclose a volume; and

placing a rigid cover over said array of squeeze film dampers.

~~and the gap between the substantially rigid planar base and the substantially planar flexible cover is less than 1×10^{-4} meters.~~

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 wherein step of applying an array of squeeze film dampers to the vibrating surface is further comprised of the step of: applying an array of squeeze film dampers to an interior surface of an airplane.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 wherein said step of applying an array of squeeze film dampers to the vibrating surface is further comprised of the step of: applying an array of squeeze film dampers to an interior surface of a helicopter.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 wherein said step of applying an array of squeeze film dampers to the vibrating surface is further comprised of the step of: applying an array of squeeze film dampers to an interior surface of an automobile.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 wherein said step of applying an array of squeeze film dampers to the vibrating surface is further comprised of the step of: applying an array of squeeze film dampers to an interior surface of a structure.